

Mr. Veerappa Moily, has refrained from making any recommendation about the creamy layer issue, Government have taken any decision on the creamy layer students and those OBC students who come up by merit independent of reservation quota; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter, and how it would impact the quota of seats reserved for the OBC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 27% reservation provided in accordance with the provisions of the Central Educational Institution (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006' is for all sections of the OBCs. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Institutes to be accorded autonomous status

2917. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.G.C. has started taking steps to find institutes that can be accorded autonomous status;

(b) whether it is a fact that the U.G.C. has asked colleges to come forward to seek autonomous status;

(c) whether U.G.C. has simplified and debureaucratized procedures and applications in this regard;

(d) the manner in which U.G.C. has improved its functioning to create more autonomous institutes; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has been inviting fresh proposals each year for grant of autonomous status to eligible colleges under its Scheme of Autonomous Colleges. Any university may also send circulars asking its affiliated colleges to apply. The number of Autonomous Colleges has grown from 2004 as on 31.3.2005 to 265 at present.